



The word *and* joins similar ideas. The word *but* shows contrasting ideas.

- ▲▲▲ Complete the following paragraph with *and* or *but*. Remember: do not begin a sentence with *And* or *But* in academic writing. Use *In addition,...* or *However,...* instead.

### *Same Holiday, Different Customs*

People in the United States and Japan celebrate Valentine's Day on February 14. However, the holiday is celebrated in different ways in each country. In the U.S., Valentine's Day is enjoyed by friends and romantic partners. \_\_\_\_\_ usually only romantic partners celebrate this day in Japan. Chocolate is the most popular gift in Japan, \_\_\_\_\_ it is common in the U.S., too. However, in the U.S., other kinds of gifts are also given, \_\_\_\_\_ many people exchange cards. The biggest difference is that in Japan, girls and women give chocolate to boys and men, \_\_\_\_\_ in the U.S., boys and girls give cards or small gifts to all of their friends. American men and women give gifts and cards to each other. In fact, women usually get more expensive gifts than men. I would like to be a man in Japan \_\_\_\_\_ a woman in the U.S.!

Did you notice anything about the punctuation with *and* and *but*?

When you join two complete sentences with *but*, you must always use a comma before *but*:

*I didn't want to send her a present. I sent her one anyway.*

*I didn't want to send her a present, but I sent her one anyway.*

When you join two complete sentences with *and* and the subjects of the sentences are both written, use a comma before *and*:

*Shopping at the mall is expensive. Parking is hard to find.*

*Shopping at the mall is expensive, and parking is hard to find.*

When you join two sentences but remove the subject of the second sentence, don't use a comma before *and*:

*These days people mail paper cards. People e-mail electronic cards.*

*These days people mail paper cards and e-mail electronic cards.*

*These days people send paper and electronic cards.*



▲▲▲ Join these sentences with *and* or *but*. Use a comma if you need one. Share your sentences with a classmate. Did you make the same choices? Talk about any differences. You only need to write ONE sentence.

(1) I got a camera for my birthday. I got clothes for Christmas.  
I got a camera for my birthday, and I got clothes for Christmas.  
I got a camera for my birthday and clothes for Christmas.

(2) Ryoko speaks English very well. She enjoys her classes.

(3) Yoshi studies hard. He does not get good grades.

(4) In Asia, most people eat rice for breakfast. In the U.S., most people have cereal.

(5) Morocco has lovely mountains. Morocco has beautiful beaches.

(6) Spanish is spoken in most of South America. Portuguese is spoken in Brazil.

(7) Presents are difficult to choose. Presents are fun to give.



*So* and *because* can be used to join two sentences together:

It was raining. I took an umbrella.    *It was raining, **so** I took an umbrella.*  
*I took an umbrella **because** it was raining.*  
***Because** it was raining, I took an umbrella.*

*So* and *because* have similar functions.

*So* tells us the result or effect of a situation.  
*Because* tells us why something happened (the cause).

▲▲▲ Practice writing three sentences like the examples above. Use *so* and *because*.

I had a cold. I did not go to class.

Sentence 1: \_\_\_\_\_

Sentence 2: \_\_\_\_\_

Sentence 3: \_\_\_\_\_

*NOTE:* A comma comes before *so*. There is no comma before *because*.

▲▲▲ Write a sentence using *so* and another using *because* for these situations.

(1) The movie was boring. I left early.

*The movie was boring, so I left early.* \_\_\_\_\_

*I left early because the movie was boring.* \_\_\_\_\_

(2) We played badly. We lost the soccer match.

(3) I failed the test. I did not study very hard.

(4) My alarm clock did not work. I was late for the meeting.

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\_\_\_\_\_



▲▲▲ Rewrite these sentences using *because*. Use the space provided.

(1) I could not bring my homework. My dog ate it.

I could not bring my homework because my dog ate it.

Because my dog ate my homework, I could not bring it.

(2) I am too busy. I do not exercise.

(3) I have too much homework. I go to bed late.

(4) I lost my friend’s book. I was not careful.

(5) I am not going to go to the beach. I have to take an exam.

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There are three kinds of sentences:

→ A **simple sentence** has one independent clause.

*It was a sunny day.*

→ A **compound sentence** has two or more independent clauses joined by a comma and a coordinating conjunction.

*It was a sunny day, and the birds were singing.*

→ A **complex sentence** has one independent and one or more dependent clauses.

A comma is needed if the dependent clause comes first.

*We went to the beach because it was a sunny day.*

*Because it was a sunny day, we went to the beach.*



As a general rule, it is always better to have 1 sentence instead of 2 sentences, 2 sentences instead of 3 sentences, etc. You get the picture!

Compound sentences are made by taking two simple sentences (two independent clauses) and making them one sentence.

A comma and a coordinating conjunction can join two sentences.

Example: She is 18 years old. She is from Miami.  
She is 18 years old, and she is from Miami.

The two simple sentences should be related somehow.

Example: I like cake. Ice cream is my favorite dessert.  
I like cake, and ice cream is my favorite dessert.

The compound sentence above has a general theme (dessert a person likes), so the compound sentence is acceptable.

However, take a look at the following:

I have a pet cat. My friend went to China last summer.  
I have a pet cat, and my friend went to China last summer.

Although the compound sentence above is grammatically correct, it is difficult to understand the sentence theme. Such compound sentences should be avoided.

▲▲▲ Join the following simple sentences to make a compound sentence. Use the space provided.

1. Her face is round. Her hair is long.
2. Frank is a singer. He wants to sing at bars and clubs.
3. She studies English. She wants to be a flight attendant.
4. Maxine is 22 years old. Her major is international studies.
5. His hair is short. His eyes are green.

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▲▲▲ Write some compound sentences by filling in the blanks. Use your imagination.

1. The sky is clear, and \_\_\_\_\_
2. The pool water is cold, and \_\_\_\_\_
3. I watch a lot of television, but \_\_\_\_\_
4. My job is very difficult, and \_\_\_\_\_
5. I enjoy playing soccer, but \_\_\_\_\_
6. I talked to her yesterday, and \_\_\_\_\_
7. I study English every day \_\_\_\_\_
8. Her hair is long and black \_\_\_\_\_
9. I took my dog for a walk \_\_\_\_\_
10. I forgot to go to the bank after school \_\_\_\_\_

▲▲▲ Join the two simple sentences using the coordinating conjunction to make one compound sentence.

1. My parents like to walk in the park. (*and*) I like to listen to music.  
\_\_\_\_\_
2. I wake up early on weekdays. (*but*) I sleep late on weekends.  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. I studied hard all semester. (*and*) I got a good score on the TOEIC test.  
\_\_\_\_\_
4. I really wanted to see that movie. (*but*) The movie was sold out.  
\_\_\_\_\_



▲▲▲ Write three compound sentences on any subject.

1. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

It should be noted that there is another way to connect simple sentences. Take one example we have used already:

She is 18 years old, and she is from Miami.

In the final compound sentence, both of the original simple sentences can still be seen. It is sometimes possible to combine two simple sentences without using a comma:

She is 18 years old and is from Miami.

In this example sentence, no comma is used, and the subject of the second sentence is removed. We can only see one of the original simple sentences.

She is 18 years old and is from Miami.  
*original simple sentence*      *sentence fragment*

Understand the sentence you are trying to make – is it a compound sentence??? – and if you need a comma!

Complex sentences are made by taking at least one dependent clause and one independent clause. For example:

(After) I returned home from school. I cooked spaghetti for dinner

After I returned home from school, I cooked spaghetti for dinner.

*dependent clause*                      *independent clause*

Notice how the dependent clause has a simple sentence as its foundation.



**GENERAL RULE #1:** If the dependent clause begins the sentence, use a comma to separate it from the following independent clause.

Example: After I returned home from school, I cooked spaghetti for dinner.

**GENERAL RULE #2:** If the dependent clause begins in the middle of the sentence, you do not need to use a comma to separate it from the independent clause.

Example: I cooked spaghetti for dinner after I returned home from school.

▲▲▲ Join these simple sentences to make a complex sentence (keep the words in parentheses either at the beginning or in the middle...wherever you see them!). Use the space provided.

1. (While) My friend and I were in Shibuya. We went to the Apple Store.
2. (After) We went to the Apple Store. We walked over to the Disney Store.
3. We finished shopping. (Before) We went to Shinjuku.
4. (While) We were in Shinjuku. We met some friends.

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▲▲▲ Write some complex sentences on any subject.

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3. 

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▲▲▲ Change each pair of simple sentences into one complex sentence. Use the space provided.

1. I woke up early. I went fishing.
2. We played volleyball for two hours. We were at the beach.
3. Josh hiked up a tall mountain. He saw many animals.
4. We listened to some funny stories. We traveled to Tokyo by car.

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▲▲▲ Fill in the blanks to make complex sentences. Use your imagination.

1. When we went swimming \_\_\_\_\_

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2. \_\_\_\_\_

after we \_\_\_\_\_

3. While \_\_\_\_\_

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4. \_\_\_\_\_

before I \_\_\_\_\_



Complex sentences can even be used to talk about future events, not just past events. For example:

(After) I will go to Tokyo Disneyland. I will see Tokyo Tower.

After I go to Tokyo Disneyland, I will see Tokyo Tower.

*dependent clause*

*independent clause*

▲▲▲ Put the following sentences together. Use the space provided.

1. (After) I will send some postcards. I will return to my hometown.
2. I will work at my part-time job. (after) I will study for my writing exam.
3. (When) I will go to Kichijoji. I will buy a new watch.
4. (Before) I will clean my apartment. I will do my laundry.

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▲▲▲ Read the following paragraphs. Find the 4 compound sentences in each.

I have been in Davis, California, for most of the last three months. During this time, I have done many things. I have visited Old Sacramento. I have skied in the Sierra Mountains and broken my arm, and I have gambled (and lost) a little money in Lake Tahoe casinos. Last month, I spent several days in San Francisco. While I was there, I visited Berkeley and Sausalito. I have visited my younger brother in Los Angeles twice, and last week I had a terrible time at Disneyland. In Davis, I have made many new friends. I have played a lot of tennis, and I have swum almost every day. I have taken many English classes since I have been here, and I have learned a lot of English. I have written many paragraphs in this class.



I have been in the United States since February. First, I lived in Dallas; then I moved here to Indiana two months ago. Since I have been in Bloomington, I have visited Chicago and Indianapolis. In Chicago, I saw a Chicago Bulls basketball game one night, and the next day I went to the Merchandise Mart. On Memorial Day, my host family took me to the Indianapolis 500 race, and I had a great time. However, I mostly stayed in Bloomington. I went to many movies, university plays, and musical concerts. The weather has been very humid so far this summer, but I like Bloomington very much.

▲▲▲ Write *S* if the sentence is simple, *C* if the sentence is compound, and *X* if the sentence is complex. Add commas where they are needed.

1. \_\_\_\_ The summers in the Midwest are hot and humid.
2. \_\_\_\_ Every evening it was too hot to sleep so my sisters and I played outside until after dark.
3. \_\_\_\_ Our parents sat on the front porch and watched us play our children's games.
4. \_\_\_\_ We played games such as hide-and-seek and tag or we just sat around and told stories.
5. \_\_\_\_ We also caught fireflies in glass jars and watched them shine in the dark like tiny flashlights.
6. \_\_\_\_ My sisters were afraid of most bugs but they loved to catch fireflies.
7. \_\_\_\_ We usually had to go to bed at nine o'clock but on warm evenings we could stay up until ten.
8. \_\_\_\_ Between nine and ten o'clock parents told us to come inside and get ready for bed.
9. \_\_\_\_ Sometimes it was still hot in our small bedroom so our parents let us sleep in the backyard.
10. \_\_\_\_ In those days, parents did not worry about crime and no one locked their front doors at night.



- ▲▲▲ Identify the compound and complex sentences in the paragraph below. Add commas where needed.

### *Teenagers*

Teenagers find many ways to drive their parents crazy. First, they may dye their hair purple or they may shave their heads bald. They may also shred their new expensive designer jeans tattoo their skin or wear rings in their noses. In addition, they spend hours at the shopping mall and on the phone. They have time to watch TV but they do not have time to do their homework. Also, they are always too busy to clean their rooms but they are never too busy to “clean” the refrigerator by eating everything in it. Finally, they are old enough to drive but too young to pay for gas. They usually have no money so they always return the family car with an empty gas tank. It is hard to be a teenager but it is even harder to be the parent of one.

- ▲▲▲ Underline all independent clauses with a solid line and all dependent clauses with a broken line. In the space at the left, write the words simple, compound, or complex to identify each sentence type.

1.    complex            Some people like to relax and do nothing when they take a vacation.
2.    \_\_\_\_\_            Other people like to travel, and still others like to have an adventure.
3.    \_\_\_\_\_            Unusual vacations are becoming popular.
4.    \_\_\_\_\_            For example, people go hiking to Nepal or river rafting in Ecuador.
5.    \_\_\_\_\_            Some people spend their vacation learning, and some people spend their vacations helping others.
6.    \_\_\_\_\_            A friend of mine studied Russian during his vacation because his company is going to send him to Russia to work.
7.    \_\_\_\_\_            A friend of mine likes to help people, so he spent his summer helping to build a school in Bangladesh.
8.    \_\_\_\_\_            After he returned home, he wanted to go back to build a medial clinic.



9. \_\_\_\_\_ The travel business is changing because people are taking different vacations.
10. \_\_\_\_\_ After people have been in the jungles of Guatemala, they may find the beaches of Florida a little boring.

Watch out for **fragments**. The word *fragment* means a part of something. A sentence fragment is a part of a sentence or a piece of a sentence; it is not a whole sentence.

Fragments:    Because he wants to leave.            When the storm ended.            Although he studies hard.

They are fragments because they are **dependent clauses**. A dependent clause cannot be a sentence by itself. It must be joined to an independent clause.

Corrected:    Because he wants to leave, he is looking for his coat.

Corrected:    We went outside when the storm ended.

Corrected:    Although he studies hard, he does not get good grades.

▲▲▲ Read each sentence. Decide if it is a fragment or a sentence. Write **F** for fragment and **S** for sentence. If it is a fragment, think how to correct it by adding an independent clause.

1. \_\_\_\_\_ Because several students were not prepared for the quiz.
2. \_\_\_\_\_ Every night, after I finish dinner.
3. \_\_\_\_\_ Because my children were sick, I was up all night.
4. \_\_\_\_\_ Because I was up all night with my sick children.
5. \_\_\_\_\_ Because my children were sick and I was up all night.
6. \_\_\_\_\_ When my children get sick.
7. \_\_\_\_\_ My children seem to get sick only when I have a test.



▲▲▲ Combine the sentences in each group to make one sentence. Some sentences will be simple some will be compound, and some will be complex. Punctuate each sentence carefully.

1. a. I love to go camping.      c. I hate to sleep on the ground.  
b. I love this in the summer.      d. The ground is hard. (Use *although* in front of 1a.)

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2. a. I get up in the morning.      b. I can hardly move. (Use *when* in front of 2a.)

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3. a. My back hurts.      b. My muscles ache.

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4. a. We go camping.      b. We always forget something. (Use *when* in front of 4a.)

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5. a. We forgot to bring our tent.      b. This happened last year.      c. We had to sleep in the open.  
(Use *so* in front of 5c.)

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6. a. I did not sleep at all.      b. I am afraid of snakes.      c. I am afraid of bears.  
(Use *because* in front of 6b.)

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7. a. I see a snake.      b. I scream.      c. I run.      (Use *if* in front of 7a.)

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8. a. I see a bear.      b. I am frozen with fear.      (Use *if* in front of 8a.)

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9. a. I do not know why I continue to go camping every year.  
 b. I really do not enjoy it. (Use *because* in front of 9b.)
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▲▲▲ Choose the correct coordinating conjunction (*and, but, or, so*) for each sentence.  
 Some sentences may have more than one correct answer

1. I like to go to Aichi, \_\_\_\_\_ I don't like to go to Nagoya.
2. Every Sunday I watch TV, \_\_\_\_\_ I read a book.
3. My roommate is very friendly, \_\_\_\_\_ he is very messy.
4. My sister likes fruit, \_\_\_\_\_ she eats it everyday.
5. I spent all my money, \_\_\_\_\_ I could still go to the concert.
6. Kyoto is a big city, \_\_\_\_\_ it has many temples.
7. My mother is a good cook, \_\_\_\_\_ I am gaining some weight.
8. She is a good singer, \_\_\_\_\_ she does not go to karaoke very often.
9. I studied very hard, \_\_\_\_\_ I got a good grade on my examination.
10. My family often goes to Hawaii, \_\_\_\_\_ sometimes we go to Bali.
11. In my free time I like to study English, \_\_\_\_\_ I like to listen to music.
12. I always do my homework for my English Writing class, \_\_\_\_\_ I think I will pass this class.

▲▲▲ Connect the two simple sentences in each pair to make a compound or complex sentence.  
 Connect them with *and, but, or, so* (whichever best fits the meaning). There may be more than one possible choice. Do not forget to add commas. Use the space provided.

Example: *Canada has two official languages. Government documents are printed in both English and French.*

→ *Canada has two official languages, so government documents are printed in both English and French.*



